

## Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 01596 212006Z  
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15  
INR-07 CIAE-00 /054 W  
-----220234Z 028282 /73 S

R 211904Z MAR 77  
FM USMISSION NATO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2310  
SECDEF WASHDC  
INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 1596

EO11652 XGDS-1  
TAGS NATO PFOR NAC CG  
SUBJECT CALL ON SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS BY AMBASSADOR  
OF ZAIRE TO BELGIUM

REF USNATO 1500 DTG 161840Z MAR 77 (NOTAL)

1. THERE FOLLOWS BELOW TEXT OF A MEMORANDUM ON SUBJECT  
WHICH SYG LUNS' OFFICE CIRCULATED IN LIEU OF THE LETTER  
NOTED IN PARA 1 OF REFTTEL.

BEGIN TEXT:

ON THE 14TH. INST. I WAS VISITED BY THE AMBASSADOR OF ZAIRE.

MR. INONGA TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED BY PRESIDENT  
MOBUTU TO INFORM THROUGH ME THE MEMBERS OF THE ALLIANCE OF THE  
GRAVITY OF WHAT HE SEES AS FLAGRANT INVASION OF ZAIRE BY  
ANGOLA. THE FACTS ARE AS FOLLOWS.

ABOUT A WEEK AGO A BODY OF ABOUT 5000 MEN, BY FAR  
THE GREATEST PART ANGOLANS WITH AMONGST THEM A FEW FORMER  
GENDARMES OF KATANGA, WHO HAVE FOUND REFUGE IN ANGOLA,  
CROSSED THE BORDERS OF ZAIRE AND STARTED AN OFFENSIVE WHICH  
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LED TO THE FALL OF FIVE CITIES. THE ZAIRE ARMY HAS REACTED  
VIGOROUSLY AND HAS RETAKEN TWO CITIES BUT THE SITUATION  
REMAINS SERIOUS. IT IS NOT SO MUCH THE NUMBER OF THE  
INVADERS AS WELL AS THE FACT THAT THEY ARE EXTREMELY WELL  
EQUIPPED WITH THE MOST MODERN SOVIET MATERIAL, PROBABLY  
GIVEN TO THEM BY THE CUBANS, WHICH WORRIES PRESIDENT MOBUTU  
AND HIS GOVERNMENT. HE SEES IN THE ACTION CLEARLY AN ATTEMPT  
TO OVERTHROW A GOVERNMENT FRIENDLY TO THE WEST AND AGAINST  
A COUNTRY WHICH LITERALLY IS THE HEART OF AFRICA. AS IS  
KNOWN, PRESIDENT MOBUTU HAS APPEALED TO THE UNITED STATES

FOR ASSISTANCE AND HE HOPED THAT I WOULD BE WILLING TO JOIN MY VOICE TO HIS OWN IN ORDER TO IMPRESS UPON WASHINGTON THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE SITUATION AND THE DANGERS WHICH WOULD ACCRUE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC WEST IF ZAIRE WOULD GO THE WAY OF OTHER COMMUNIST COUNTRIES IN AFRICA LIKE CONGO-BRAZZA-VILLE, MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA. THE OFFENSIVE BY THE ANGOLAN INVADERS MAY BE RESUMED AT ANY MOMENT.

AFTER HAVING REMINDED THE AMBASSADOR THAT ZAIRE LIES OUTSIDE THE GEOGRAPHICAL TERRITORY COVERED BY NATO, I AGREED WITH MR. INONGA THAT WHAT HAPPENS IN AFRICA MAY WELL HAVE REPERCUSSIONS IN EUROPE AND NORTH AMERICA. ALTHOUGH I COULD NOT AT ALL HOLD OUT ANY EXPECTATION THAT OTHER COUNTRIES OF NATO WOULD COME TO THE ASSISTANCE OF ZAIRE, I PROMISED BY VISITOR THAT I WOULD NOT FAIL TO BRING HIS DEMARCHE TO THE ATTENTION OF THE NATO-MEMBERS AND THAT I WOULD DO SO DURING ONE OF THE FORTHCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS.

THE AMBASSADOR THANKED ME WARMLY AND SAID THAT HIS PRESIDENT WOULD BE VERY GRATEFUL FOR MY REACTION.  
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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<< END OF DOCUMENT >>

## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Subject:** SUBJECT CALL ON SECRETARY GENERAL LUNS BY AMBASSADOR OF ZAIRE TO BELGIUM  
**TAGS:** MARR  
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